



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/464,449	12/16/1999	HIROFUMI NAKAYASU	991430	7540
23850	7590	06/23/2004	EXAMINER	
ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS, HANSON & BROOKS, LLP			WALLERSON, MARK E	
1725 K STREET, NW				
SUITE 1000				
WASHINGTON, DC 20006				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2626	11
			DATE MAILED: 06/23/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/464,449	NAKAYASU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Mark E. Wallerson	2626

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM
 THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-5 and 9-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5 and 9-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendment filed on 4/13/04.
2. This application has been reconsidered. Claims 1-5 and 9-15 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

5. Claim 13 recites the limitation "the curvature correction information" in line 1 of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

6. Claim 13 recites the limitation "the dot pitch correction information" in the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

7. Claim 13 recites the limitation "the accuracy information storage means" in the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

Art Unit: 2626

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 1-5 and 9-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

Minakuchi et al (Minakuchi) (U. S. 5,838,001).

With respect to claims 1, 4, and 5, Minakuchi discloses an image storage means (401) for storing image information; read out means for assigning read out position of the image storage means (column 10, lines 1-8); transferring the image on to paper (column 6, lines 24-29), an accuracy information storage means (401) for storing position accuracy information in a scanning direction (column 9, line 57 to column 10, line 8), wherein the read out means has means for reading out the position accuracy information and corrects the image information read-out position by the position accuracy information (column 9, line 57 to column 10, line 8), wherein the position accuracy information stored in the accuracy information storage means is a combination of curvature correction information (column 9, lines 2-65) or dot-pitch correction information (beam-spot shifting) and oblique correction information (tilt information) (column 8, line 30 to column 9, line 8).

With respect to claim 13, Minakuchi discloses an image exposure apparatus (figure 1) wherein position accuracy information is stored in an internal accuracy storage means (column 9, line 57 to column 10, line 8), the means for storing the correction information is installed in an image transfer unit which may be replaced by another image transfer unit (column 9, lines 2-8), and the image transfer apparatus comprises a light transmitting device (column 3, lines 16-23).

With respect to claims 2, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14, Minakuchi discloses the position accuracy information is curvature information (column 9, lines 47-56).

With regard to claims 3 and 15, Minakuchi discloses dot pitch correction information (beam spots) (column 8, lines 35-60).

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments filed 4/13/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant submits that Minakuchi does not disclose the position accuracy information stored in the accuracy information storage means is a combination of curvature correction information and/or dot-pitch correction information and oblique correction information. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Minakuchi discloses the position accuracy information stored in the accuracy information storage means is a combination of curvature correction information (column 9, lines 2-65) or dot-pitch correction information (beam-spot shifting) and oblique correction information (tilt information) (column 8, line 30 to column 9, line 8).

Conclusion

11. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2626

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark E. Wallerson whose telephone number is (703) 305-8581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday - 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on (703) 305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark E. Wallerson
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2626

MARK WALLERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

